

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 WELLIN 02011 200406Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 PA-02 INR-10 INRE-00 SAB-02
ARA-14 /041 W

-----093415 200410Z /61

O 200353Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5399
CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 02011

FOR: IBS IOR IPS, CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR

EO 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL TREATY MEDIA REACTION

1. THE NEW ZEALAND "HERALD", APRIL 20 COMMENTED IN ITS
FIRST EDITORIAL, UNDER THE HEADING "PANAMA WITHOUT
AMERICANS":

2. "THE DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO APPROVE
THE TRANSFER OF THE PANAMA CANAL TO PANAMA REPRESENTS
A MAJOR AND HISTORIC MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF ONE OF THE
WORLD'S MAJOR TRADE ROUTES. OUTSIDERS SHOULD NOT UNDER-
ESTIMATE BOTH THE PUBLIC WRENCH AND THE POLITICAL STRESSES
INVOLVED IN MAKING THE CHANGE.

3. "FOR THE TRADING NATIONS OF THE WORLD, THE MAIN
CONCERN WILL BE THAT THE CANAL REMAINS IMPARTIALLY OPEN TO
ALL, AS IT HAS DONE UNDER UNITED STATES CONTROL. THAT
IS ALSO A PRIME POINT FOR THE UNITED STATES ITSELF, AND A
TREATY FOR THE NEUTRALITY AND OPERATION OF THE CANAL,
PASSED LAST MONTH, PROVIDES THAT BOTH COUNTRIES WILL ENSURE
THAT THE CANAL REMAINS OPEN AND SECURE TO SHIPS OF ALL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 WELLIN 02011 200406Z

NATIONS.

4. "UNFORTUNATELY, THE SENATE SAW FIT TO TAG THE
NEUTRALITY TREATY WITH A PROVISION WHICH SEEMED TO CLAIM
FOR THE UNITED STATES A PERPETUAL RIGHT TO BREACH THE
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF PANAMA. BEFORE PASSING THE SEC-
OND, OR TRANSFER, TREATY, THE SENATE BACKPEDALLED BY DIS-

CLAIMING ANY RIGHT OF INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS
OF PANAMA.

5. "FOR MR CARTER, THE PASSAGE OF THE TREATY, EVEN IF
BY A WHISKER, IS A MUCH-NEEDED POLITICAL BOOST.
WASHINGTON WITS HAD RECENTLY SAID THAT HE WAS LOOKING LIKE
A ONE-TERM PRESIDENT AND THAT PEOPLE WERE ASKING WHEN THE
TERM WOULD BEGIN. HE HAS NOW SHOWN THAT HE IS WILLING
AND ABLE TO MUSTER VOTES AT LEAST IN SOME CAUSES. PERHAPS
HIS SUCCESS WITH THE CANAL AND HIS VOW THIS WEEK TO "DO
THINGS BETTER" WILL MARK A TURNING POINT FOR HIS ADMIN-
ISTRATION." ANDERSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY RATIFICATION, PRESS COMMENTS, CANALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978WELLIN02011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780168-0767
Format: TEL
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780433/aaaabbzv.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 535079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2898788
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PANAMA CANAL TREATY MEDIA REACTION
TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, NZ, US
To: USIA ICA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/535079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014